

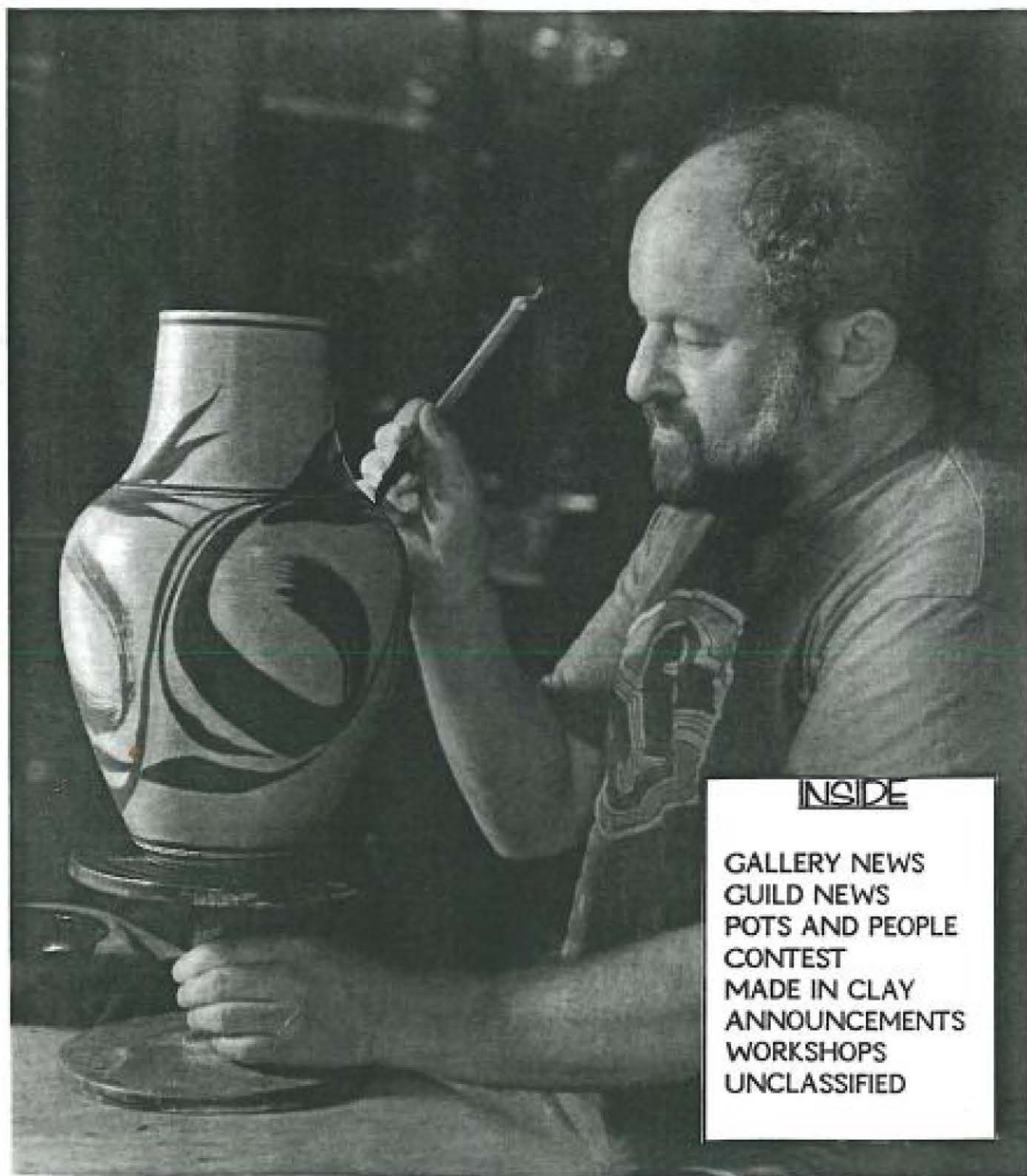


Potters Guild of British Columbia

1359 Cartwright St., Granville Island
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1995



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ROBIN HOPPER, JANUARY 1995

*Kent's Holiday
Box 43 Wilson's Gardens
Hwy 94860. Fax 01707 333276*

What are standards? Do we need them? And, if so, what can they do for us. These are questions that all potters should spend a long time pondering. The word *standards* can pertain to a great many variables, from aesthetics and concept, to details of craftsmanship and execution. The contemporary clay worker finds himself in a position of enormous difficulty in this age, often lacking the roots of a tradition, and yet bombarded by a morass of influences. It is an awesome task to understand our choice of variables, let alone make appropriate decisions on what to say or make, and how to say or make it. The old traditional potter didn't suffer from an overabundance of sources of inspiration; he generally made simple wares for specific functions to satisfy the needs of a pre-plastic society. Dora Billington writes in *The Technique of Pottery*, "The traditional peasant potter, using the materials that were close at hand, developing very slowly the craft that he had inherited, and knowing only one kind of pottery, made according to well-proven and time-honored methods, produced pots which had a logical directness and usually a real, if largely unconscious, beauty."

The potter himself, and his role in today's society, is quite different. He or she is usually a well-educated person, deciding to work in clay for any number of different reasons that seldom have anything to do with either being a peasant, or of following a particular tradition. In essence, he or she is an anomaly, for the main part producing wares to suit functions that are often done better by industry. The potter is more flexible than any machine, and is able to make things that show the indomitable spirit of humanity, which are part of a tradition going back to the very roots of civilization. Although the potter may be working in archaic ways, and is an extension of a living tradition, he or she is capable of challenging and adapting tradition to face new needs. He or she may make unpretentious objects for a strictly utilitarian need, or precious objects which fulfil an often unseen need in everyday life and its rituals. He or she has the opportunity to produce works that transcend the purely utilitarian, becoming usable works of art that can be integrated into daily living, or a central focus in a special occasion. Pottery sometimes has that special quality found in all good art that gradually unfolds itself to the user or viewer. It has a slow release mechanism that seems to expose the work a little at a time - a nuance of color or a change in the form that wasn't noticed before. One probably never knows all that there is to know about a really good piece, in the way that one never really knows all there is to know about a close friend.

-Robbin Hopper in *Functional Pottery*, p.244

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE POTTERS GUILD OF B. C. AND SOURCE INTERNATIONAL ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A JOINTLY SPONSORED CONTEST FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE B.C. POTTERS GUILD.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE CONTEST IS TO CREATE A SET OF UP TO FOUR, TERRA COTTA FLOWER POTS FOR JUDGING BY A PANEL OF JURORS ON APRIL 26, 1995 TO COORDINATE WITH THE UPCOMING MADE IN CLAY EVENT.

THE CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE B.C. POTTERS GUILD INCLUDING MEMBERS OF OTHER GUILDS HOLDING MEMBERSHIP IN THE B.C. POTTERS GUILD.

FIRST PRIZE IS \$4,000.00
SECOND PRIZE IS \$2,000.00
THIRD PRIZE IS \$1,000.00

FULL DETAILS OF THE CONTEST AND REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE MAILED TO ALL POTTERS GUILD MEMBERS WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

LETTERS

The Board,

As a member of the Guild for over 30 years and a full time production potter with work in the Gallery this is a letter of support for the Board in its decision to deduct 10% for the Guild from Made In Clay profits. Also an appreciation to Keith Rice-Jones for his excellent response to Cathi's letter.

May we all expand our horizons and hearts.

Meg Buckley,
Salt Spring Island

GALLERY NEWS

As 1994 draws to a close, the Gallery Of B.C. Ceramics continues to see fairly brisk sales. Not only are people buying ceramics, but books and cards are also selling well. The Gallery now carries seven titles (with another ten or so to arrive) and *Ceramics Monthly* (other periodicals have been ordered). Many thanks to Gillian McMillan for helping to arrange the periodicals. We plan to have a comprehensive collection of both technical and non technical titles available for sale. Suggestions for books that we don't have will always be welcome.

Gillian McMillan's cards, *Pots in a Cupboard*, have been selling as a nice complement to her work. We have had inquiries from two other artists about jointly producing more cards or postcards and are currently investigating the actual costs for production. Please call the Gallery if this interests you, too.

The *Blues Be Gone*, 10% discount sale is on Jan. 3-15. Because the Gallery is absorbing the 10 % the potters will not lose any commission

and the Gallery should still see an increase in sales.

Wishing everyone the best for 1995,

- Jane Matthews

GUILD NEWS

In December, the Guild launched a new service for members juried into the Gallery. Each month we will monitor sales and provide all Gallery artists with information regarding the kinds of work that have been sold and the dollar volume by category. A print out of this information will be sent directly to each artist, usually between the 10th and 15th of each month.

We are working toward using the gallery for a series of special shows beginning in February with a show tailored to the ceramic needs of interior designers. Planning for this show is moving ahead nicely. Later in the year we hope to organize similar events for other market sectors. These marketing events will help to strengthen the overall Gallery presence among large groups of ceramics users and increase Gallery sales generally.

At year end, the Guild had 380 paid up individual members and 63 group/institutional members. We have been receiving new memberships at a rate of 5-7 per month since September. Membership renewals for 1995 have also been strong. During the coming year we hope to continue to attract new members to achieve the goal of making the Guild the strongest arts organization in the Province.

- Jan Krueger

POTS AND PEOPLE

OLEA DAVIS: A POTTERS GUILD FOUNDER

Olea Davis was born in Buffalo, New York in 1899 of Canadian parents who later returned to live in a Northern Ontario mining town. Olea graduated from McGill University as a physical education major. Her later training at Ontario College of Art in Toronto, and the Ecole de Beaux Arts in Montreal was directed toward sculpture and pottery.

About 1927 she moved with her husband to British Columbia. During the construction of the Hotel Vancouver, Olea was commissioned to design lighting fixtures and ornamental screens. She designed and promoted the dogwood flower as the official emblem of the province of British Columbia and it was accepted by the Legislature in 1952. She then worked with the Community Arts Council to set up the first craft outlet here in premises on Howe Street.

With the help of Dr. Gordon Shrum, one of the UBC Acadia Camp army huts was obtained as a permanent location for the Department of Extension pottery courses which flourished there for the next thirteen years with Olea teaching in the latter years.

Olea's work appeared in all the important ceramic exhibitions - abroad in Brussels, Ostend, Florence and Berlin - at home in all the Biennial Ceramic Exhibitions in Toronto and Montreal, and in America in the Syracuse Biennial. With a grant from the Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation, she collaborated with Stan Clarke, Reg Dixon and Hilda Ross in extensive research on British Columbia clays and this resulted in the first commercially prepared mixture.

In 1954 she and a small group founded the B.C. Potters Guild, and she served as its first president. When Olea saw any signs of talent, she was endlessly encouraging and helpful. There are many potters in British Columbia today who are in her debt. Even the younger potters, who grew up after she retired owe her more than they know.

In January 1977, she was made an honorary member of the International Academy of Ceramics in Zurich, Switzerland. After a lengthy illness she died on April 6, 1977.

If you would like to write about your situation in this column, please contact Keith at 522-8803 or send your article to Jan Krueger at the Guild Ph.669-5645.

MADE IN CLAY NOTES

There is still room for consignment sales in the Made In Clay 1995 event. Any one interested in placing works in the consignment area should contact Jan Krueger at 604-669-5645. The fee is \$10 and a 40% commission is taken on all consignment sales. Persons consigning work are also required to help out during the sale.

This year we have made arrangements to rent a large tent to add to the Made in Clay sales space. All persons registered for the sale are now assured of booth space. (Forty-four individuals and groups are registered this year.)

This year's sale is beginning to look like the largest, all ceramics sale, in B.C history.

Notes of the first organizational meeting are being forwarded directly to all registered participants. Wait listed persons who have not forwarded deposits should do so NOW. DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND THE ALL PARTICIPANTS' MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 18, 1995 AT THE GUILD.

1995 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE NOW DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE NEWS

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

Call for Artisans
18th Annual Creative Craft Fair
G.R. Pearkes Rec. Centre
Victoria, B.C.
-Contact Terri Heit-
604-658-2901

BLACK HOLES AND OTHER LIES/
BLACK LIES AND OTHER HOLES
Jan. 5-21
Dianne Searle at
Open Space Gallery,
510 Fort St., Victoria

Art '95
A New York juried contest with \$55,000 in
prizes and awards
-Contact Ashley Ames-
Ph. 914-623-0599
Fax 914-623-0611
before March 3, 1995

TOZAN MEETING
January 17, in the
Sealand Market, Nanaimo
Contact: Maureen Beardsley
at 604-245-467 for times

HELP WANTED

Pottery Teacher Wanted.

Fiddle Fiddle Pottery Group is an on-going class
which has just moved to its own studio in Mount
Pleasant area. We are persons living in the
community who have psychiatric illness and do clay
work for leisure and our sanity. If you would like

to teach a 2 hour class once a week, please phone
Juanita at 421-9740 or 253-4401. We cannot pay
cash for service but can trade use of our fully
equipped studio. A staff person will co-facilitate
the group with you and provide practical
assistance.

*

WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

The Guild is currently planning workshops for the
1995 season.

*

Robin Hopper: January 28/29, 1994

*

Andy Martin is scheduled for March 3, 4, and 5,
1995. Don't miss this workshop with a premier slip
caster, mold maker and decorator.

*

Yanagi Yamamoto, the Tozan kiln builder will be
providing a workshop on hand building, tentatively
scheduled for June at the Burnaby Arts Centre.

*

Sarah Coote is scheduled for September.

*

SALT SPRING ISLAND WORKSHOP
Steve Heinemann
Feb. 25 and 26

Cost: \$55.00+GST, Free Accomodation
Contact: Denys James at 604-537-4906

*

Also happening in 1995:

Bob Kingsmill at the Burnaby Arts Centre, January
14 and 15.

Phone: 291-6864; Cost: \$69.55

*

Gordon Hutchens at Burnaby Arts Centre, March 25
and 26.

Phone: 291-6864; Cost: \$96.30

*

UNCLASSIFIED ADS

STUDIO POTTERS NETWORK

- Available in February and October from
the Potters Guild of B.C.

- Price is \$7.00 plus GST for both issues

- Contact Jan Krueger to register for your copy.
Ph. 669-5645

FOR SALE

1 - Soldner Electric Wheel	\$350.00
1 - Shimpo Electric Wheel	\$450.00
1 - Kick Wheel	\$150.00

Contact Bernard on Hornby Island at
335-2430

FOR SALE

3 cu.ft. Estrin Electric Kiln, as new;
240 volt, 2300 degree temp. \$700.00 or best offer.

Contact: K.G. Mounsey at 604-339-2477, Galiano
Island.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

YES, I WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER _____

YES, I WANT TO RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP _____

I/We are applying for the following category of membership:

Individual	\$35 _____
Senior	\$20 _____
Family or Studio (2/4 persons)	\$50 _____
Institution/Group	\$70 _____
Full time Student	\$20 _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

PHONE: _____

I/We enclose \$ _____ cash, cheque or money order.

MAIL TO: POTTERS GUILD OF B.C.
1359 CARTWRIGHT ST.
VANCOUVER, B.C.
V6H 3R7
Ph. 604-669-5645

POTTERS GUILD OF B.C. NEWSLETTER

The NEWSLETTER is published 10 times a year as an information link for membership. Submissions are welcome and should be in the Guild office by the third Friday of the month. Text may be edited.

Executive Director and Editor: Jan Krueger

Gallery Managers: Jane Matthews

Gallery Assistants: Melanie Corbin, Deborah Tibbel, Darlene Nairns, Anthony Sobala

ADVERTISING RATES: \$130.00 FULL PAGE; \$65.00 1/2 PAGE; \$40.00 1/4 PAGE; \$65.00 1 COLUMN; \$40.00 1/2 COLUMN. ALL RATES ARE PLUS GST, EFFECTIVE FEB. 1995.

UNCLASSIFIED RATES: Free to members. Non-members, \$8.00 minimum up to 3 lines. \$2.00 per column line thereafter.

ALL ADS ARE TO BE PREPAID PLUS GST. DEADLINE IS LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

1995 MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Individual:	\$35.00	Family or studio:	\$50.00 (2/4 persons)
Institutions/groups:	\$70.00	Corporations:	\$70.00
Seniors/full time			
Students:	\$20.00		

MEMBERSHIPS ARE BASED ON THE CALENDAR YEAR ONLY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Pres. Tam Irving; V.P. Nathan Roffa; Sec. June MacDonald; Treas. Pat Taddy.

Directors: Linda Doherty, Kersti Krug, Carol Mayer, Dawn McNamara, Gillian McMillan, Joe Nagel, Ron Vallis, Keith Rice-Jones.

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ROBIN HOPPER WORKSHOP

DATE: January 28 and 29, 1995

PLACE: Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design

SPONSORS: Potters Guild of B.C. and ECIAD

CONTENT: Throwing, trimming, assemblage and finishing work
Decoration technique, slip ware, coloured clay,
brush work

Slide presentation including ceramic history, his
own work and development

COST: MEMBER.....\$96.30 inc. GST.

NON-MEMBER..\$112.35 inc. GST

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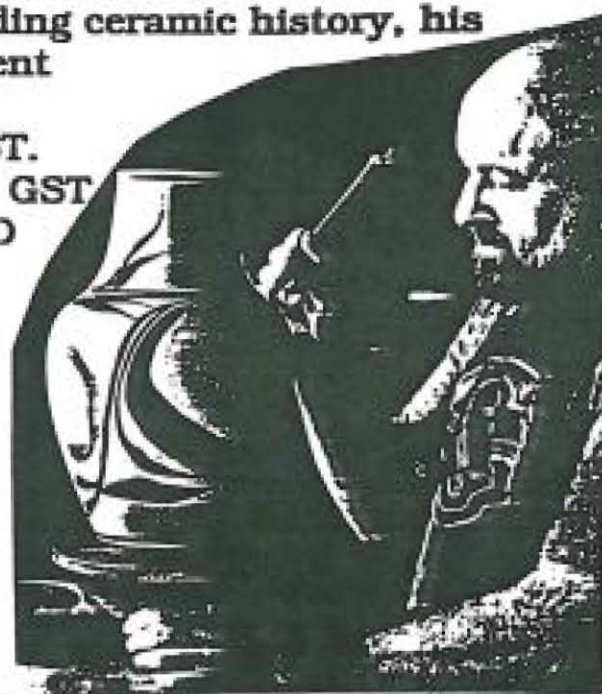
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VANCOUVER, B.C. V6H 3R7

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____



WORKSHOP WITH ANDREW MARTIN

DATE: March 3,4,5 1995

PLACE: Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design

SPONSORS: Potters Guild of B.C. and ECIAD

CONTENT: Slide show, mold making, casting a mold, decoration
critique of work (hands on experience).

COST: MEMBER.....\$74.90 inc. GST

NON MEMBER....\$96.30 inc. GST

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